

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 NAIROB 08043 261510Z  
ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 INR-10  
LAB-04 NSAE-00 SIL-01 L-03 SS-15 NSC-05 SP-02  
/073 W  
-----126047 270302Z /73-62  
R 261327Z MAY 78  
FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7724  
INFO USMISSION GENEVA

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E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ILO, ELAB  
SUBJ: ILO 1978 CONFERENCE

REF: STATE 127537

1. EMBOFFS MET SEPARATELY WITH PERMSEC MINISTRY OF LABOR (OTHIENO) AND WITH UNDERSEC MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS (MAITHA) TO PRESENT US VIEWS ON ILO ISSUES PRIOR TO 64TH INTERNATIONAL LABOR CONFERENCE. BOTH KENYAN OFFICIALS ASSERTED GOK VIEW THAT US BELONGS IN ORGANIZATION AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT POLICY REVIEW AFTER 64TH CONFERENCE WOULD LEAD TO DECISION TO RETURN. MAITHA SAID IT WAS GOK POLICY TO DO WHAT IT COULD, WITHOUT COMPROMISING BASIC PRINCIPLE, TO CREATE CONDITIONS WHICH WOULD ENCOURAGE US TO REJOIN THE ORGANIZATION.

2. IN DISCUSSION OF SPECIFIC ISSUES, OTHIENO, WHO WILL PLAY PIVOTAL ROLE IN KENYAN DELEGATION TO CONVENTION AND WILL ASSUME CHAIRMANSHIP AFTER LABOR MINISTER NYAMWEYA DEPARTS, STATED THAT WITH EXCEPTION OF QUESTION OF ILO STRUCTURE KENYA VIEWS ARE IDENTICAL TO OUR OWN. HE INDICATED THAT KENYA WOULD PRESS FOR CACR TO ADOPT STATEMENT INCORPORATING COE VIEWS, AND FOR CONFERENCE PLENARY TO ADOPT 1978 CACR REPORT. HE  
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PAGE 02 NAIROB 08043 261510Z

NOTED THAT KENYA TOO WAS PLEASED THAT SPECIAL MISSION HAD BEEN DISPATCHED TO ISRAEL TO INVESTIGATE ALLEGED ISRAELI VIOLATIONS OF ILO DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT CONVENTION. OTHIENO ASSERTED THAT IT IS VERY IMPORTANT TO FUTURE OF ILO THAT MATTERS SUCH AS THIS BE HANDLED IN ACCORDANCE WITH DUE PROCESS. WITH RESPECT TO PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 17 OF CONFERENCE STANDING ORDERS, OTHIENO AGREED THAT IT IS IMPOR-

TANT TO AGREE ON TEXT IN ORDER TO AVOID CONTINUING POLITIZATION OF ORGANIZATION. ON EACH OF THESE ISSUES OTHIENO EXPRESSED OPTIMISM THAT VIEW SHARED BY USG AND GOK WOULD PREVAIL AT CONVENTION. HE PREDICTED THAT HARDEST FIGHT MIGHT COME ON QUESTION OF ADOPTING 1978 CACR REPORT BECAUSE OF PROPENSITY OF MODERATES TO RUN AWAY FROM FIGHT.

3. OTHIENO WAS AWARE THAT US STRONGLY OPPOSES PROPOSED CHANGES IN ILO STRUCTURE, PARTICULARLY THOSE CONCERNING SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF GOVERNING BODY. HE MADE POINT, THOUGH, THAT IMEC PROPOSAL WAS RESULT OF DELICATE NEGOTIATIONS INVOLVING COMPROMISE ON ALL SIDES. HE EXPRESSED HOPE USG WOULD UNDERSTAND THAT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS NEED OCCASIONALLY TO MAKE ORGANIZATIONAL CHANGES TO REFLECT FUNDAMENTAL POLITICAL CHANGES IN WORLD AROUND THEM. THIS IS ONE SUCH CASE, HE ASSERTED. OTHIENO SAID THAT KENYA DID NOT REGARD IMEC PROPOSALS AS PERFECT BUT BELIEVED, IN CIRCUMSTANCES, THEY SHOULD AND WOULD BE ADOPTED. HE STATED EARNESTLY HIS HOPE THAT DISPLEASURE WITH OUTCOME ON STRUCTURE ISSUE WOULD NOT IN ITSELF BE SUFFICIENT TO KEEP US FROM RETURNING TO ILO AFTER POLICY REVIEW LATER THIS YEAR.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, INTERNATIONAL LABOR ORGANIZATIONS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 26 may 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978NAIROB08043  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780224-0087  
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**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Reference:** 78 STATE 127537  
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**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2550657  
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**Subject:** ILO 1978 CONFERENCE  
**TAGS:** ELAB, KE, US, ILO, (OTHIENO), (MAITHA)  
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**Review Markings:**  
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